

**REMARKS**

The Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection.

Claims 10-14 are now pending.

The Applicants request acknowledgement of the claim for priority in this case. The priority document (JP 09-313170, filed November 14, 1997) was filed in the parent case, U.S. Serial No. 09/188,365.

Claims 10 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regards as the invention. In particular, the Examiner finds that the word type renders the claims indefinite as including elements that were not actually disclosed. In reply, the Applicants note that the specification is replete with references to the claimed "token-type electronic money" and "value-type electronic money". See, for example, page 3, lines 4-6 ("In the electronic money system of the token type, the electronic money balance is managed by the issuance number of each electronic bill.") and page 2, lines 23-26 ("On the other hand, in the electronic money system of the value type the

balance of electronic money in the electronic money card is managed only in accordance with the value (amount).")

See also page 4, lines 5-8, which explain that, in a preferred embodiment, the electronic money card stores issuance numbers of relatively large denomination bills "and the balance of coins as a value amount," such that the issuance numbers (rather than the bill denomination values themselves) represent the "token type".

The Applicants infer from paragraph 7, lines 3-4 of the Office Action that the Examiner would accept an amendment to simply delete "type" from the claims, resulting in the expressions token electronic money and value electronic money. The Applicants prefer the expressions in the claims as they presently exist, but if the Examiner persists in the rejection, the Applicants agree to an Examiner's Amendment to delete "type" without narrowing the scope of the claims.

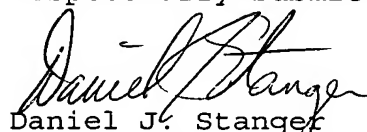
Claims 10-12 were also rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 8 of U.S. Patent No. 6,402,027. Without admitting to the propriety of the rejection, the Applicants submit a Terminal Disclaimer to avoid the rejection.

Serial No. 10/084,361

ASA-746-03

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicant requests reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: October 14, 2003